

Built-ins

At a time when space is becoming ever more expensive many are turning to adaptive methods to make smaller spaces fulfill their needs. Built-ins offer project-specific solutions that can be customized to the requirements of the user: from storage of belongings to furniture pieces, like beds, desks, and seating, as well as kitchens and bathrooms. As built-ins are custom-made to fit a specific space, the possibilities are endless and simply depend on budget and imagination. Clever use of materials can create a cohesive environment, while making the most of the small space.



The Zoku hotel room with its open-plan living spaces is a hybrid between an office, a home, and a hotel. Bottom left View from the door into the micro-apartment.

A hotel room for living in

Located in the eastern canal district of Amsterdam, the suites of the Zoku hotel by Dutch practice [Concrete Amsterdam](#) were planned as a series of micro-apartments. Designed according to the notion of “work-meets-play,” the spatial concept has been

expanded to 133 of Zoku hotel’s suites. As it is possible to reserve rooms for anything from one night to several months, it was important to create spaces that felt more like a home than a hotel. Therefore the focus shifted from bedroom to living space. The 25 m² (269 ft²) spaces include open-plan living areas, a kitchenette, hidden mezzanine bedrooms, extensive storage, concealed under-bed

office areas, a large bamboo-topped table for both entertaining and working, and ceiling-mounted gymnastics hoops. The mezzanine sleeping area is accessed by a retractable staircase, which slides back into the storage area beneath when not in use. This sleeping area is concealed by a timber screen, giving privacy and also separating it from the main space below.